

## DIED IN THE NIGHT

Senator Leland Stanford California's Philanthropist

## PASSES SUDDENLY TO HIS REST

Death Came to Him While Alone in His Bed—Cause of His Illness—His Last Moments

San Francisco, June 21.—United States Senator Leland Stanford died at midnight last night at his country residence, Palo Alto. He was in the best of health yesterday, took a drive around his stock ranch and retired shortly after 10 o'clock. He made no complaint during the day regarding his health. About midnight his wife entered his bedroom and found his master dead. His appearance was perfectly natural. The news of the senator's death was speedily sent to the city by his business associates and friends. For several weeks there had been no indications of his being in a precarious condition, and he had talked confidently of his plans for the future. He expressed a desire to live two years longer in order to bring his university into prominence. Latterly his hearing had been very much affected, and a week ago he was hardly able to move about without assistance. He said he suffered from gout, but that he did not intend to return to Washington unless the republican party needed him in congress. No doubt he would have resigned his seat before long. He had to be assisted in walking, but his mind was perfectly strong and clear as ever. The body will be embalmed.

Born in New York State.

Senator Stanford was born in Albany county, New York, in 1824. The senator belonged to what he once called "a man family." There were seven brothers and only one sister, who died early. Six of these brothers preceded Leland to California. He was the last to go there, in 1852. Previous to this departure for the new El Dorado he had intended to become a lawyer. He began mining gold at Michigan Bluff, Placer county, California, first alone and later in association with three of his brothers who had preceded him there. In 1856 he removed to San Francisco and engaged in mercantile pursuits on a large scale, laying the foundation of the fortune of fifty million dollars which he leaves to his widow. In 1870 he made his entrance into public life as a delegate to the Chicago convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln to the presidency.

He was one of the earliest and most earnest advocates of a Pacific railroad and was elected president of the Central Pacific company when it was organized in 1867. The same year he was elected governor of California and served from December, 1873, to December, 1875. As president of the Pacific road he superintended its construction over the mountains, building 530 miles in 20 days, and on May 10, 1883, died the last time at Promontory Point, Utah.

## Elected to the Senate.

In 1886 he was elected to the United States senate, succeeding T. J. Farley, democrat, and was re-elected in 1891. His term in the senate expired in 1901. Of late years his time has been given principally to the great university which he founded in honor of his son and to politics.

Owing to his generosity his great wealth did not prevent him from being the largest donor to philanthropic work during his life. He was a great benefactor to the University of California, not omitting Girard and Stanford.

Mr. Stanford was married at the age of 23. His wife was the daughter of David Lathrop, a merchant of Albany. Eighteen years later she died and only a child was born. He died at the age of 78. His death was a great blow to both his parents, who idolized him.

## Leland Stanford, Jr., University.

This great institution at Palo Alto, which was first opened for students four years ago, has an endowment of \$200,000. Its curriculum includes not only all the usual collegiate studies, but also instruction in geology, typewriting, stenography, bookkeeping, farming, civil engineering and other practical branches of education. The corner stone was laid May 14, 1891. Included in the trust fund for the maintenance of the university is the Stanford estate in Vina, Tehama county. This is the largest vineyard in the country, comprising 30,000 acres, 3,500 of which are planted with growing vines. It is divided into 53,000 acres and most of the labor is performed by Chinese. To the support of this university all the Stanford millions will eventually go.

## Government Loans to Land Owners.

Perhaps the most notable measure introduced by the senator during his stay at Washington at least the measure which would result in the largest amount of money being provided for the loaning of money by the government to the owners of land. "The farmer," argued the senator, "needs more money than he gets. His crops are harvested once a year and he then receives money for what they will bring to the market. In the meantime he is hampered by reason of the need of cash, and to obtain money he cannot afford to pay as high a rate of interest as does a merchant. A banker will deposit bonds with the government as security for a loan, and the government will loan him money at a low rate of interest. This money the banker will, in the course of a year, turn over and over again several times. A contractor, for instance, will borrow \$100 for a year at 6 per cent and then employ 100 men to work for him at \$1 a day. With this sum of \$100 he is able to employ them all day. If he can convert the product of these labor into cash at the close of the day, he can employ them the next day, and so on for every work day in the year. Thus the contractor is reaping a profit day after day with the money he borrowed. The farmer, on the other hand, can only use himself this privilege once in an entire year."

## As a House Redeemer.

For his own amusement the senator cultivated the American trotter. He bred the famous Samson, sold to Mr. Bonner, and the great Arion, for which Malcom Forbes of Boston paid \$150,000. He drove his trotters and attended to the details of his own racing the same himself, and being nothing that he could do himself to underestimates. He and his wife had 900 horses. These he raised for the improvement of the stock and the glory of California. He

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